

The Edgefield Advertiser

IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
W. F. DUNSON, Proprietor,
ARTHUR SIMKINS, Editor.

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Extract from Col. I. W. Hayne's
COMMUNICATION, IN REPLY TO A CHARGE MADE
BY THE SOUTHERN PATRIOT.

For myself, Messrs. Editors, (I stand last on the list), I can most emphatically deny that my sentiments have undergone any radical change. On the contrary, I have for some time believed that there was no redress in the Union, it is of late that I have begun to loathe the tie which connects us with our misallied brethren of the North. Not the victims of MEZENTINE'S tyranny could have shrunk in more disgust from the unnatural union of warm and breathing life with the rotten carcass of what once had been a brother man, than I do from this once cherished, but now abandoned and forced connexion.—The voters understood this. In a card, under my own signature, a few days before the election, I thus expressed myself:

"I can say, in general terms, what in substance I have often said before, that the action of the Federal Government has convinced me that the limits of the Constitution afford no practical restraint upon its powers; that the disposition on the part of the majority to plunder and oppress, is manifest; while it is equally clear that the minority have, under the forms of the Constitution, no power of self-protection. The late acts of Congress, mislabeled the 'Compromise,' I condemn much more as the unmistakable symptoms of a fatally diseased body politic, than on account of the many evils which they, in themselves, are fraught. The slaveholding States have, as I conceive, been already degraded from their rightful position of equality; and for the sake of no new development to assume that their continuance in the Union as it is, can only bring further disgrace, dishonor and debasement as its immediate fruit, and, I most confidently believe, utter ruin and desolation in a more distant future.

"Submission" then, ultimate acquiescence, is an alternative, which I cannot consent to contemplate in ANY CONCEIVABLE CONTINGENCY.

But, Messrs. Editors, the matter to which I most desired to speak is the classification, by the Greenville Editor (I wish it were peculiar to him) of men actively engaged in the cause of Southern resistance, into the friends and opponents of "Secession." "Separate State action," or its closest ally, is called "State Secession." For one, I enter against it my solemn protest. As a classification, it is inaccurate and loose. "Secession," that is disunion, is the remedy proposed by all. And "State Secession," and "separate State action," as a right, is admitted by all; and there is no one of the individuals named by the Greenville paper, who does not hold, that circumstances may arise, and a time may come, when the exercise of this right, on the part of South Carolina, would be wise and expedient. The difference there practically is this, while some undertake, a year in advance, to pronounce that the time and circumstances will have arrived whenever the Convention meets, others do not profess to understand futurity so well, and hold themselves open to be guided by events.

It is wise to separate such men as these from the supposed majority? It is true, that there are some in the State, who think that South Carolina is so all-sufficient in herself, that circumstances beyond her own borders are unworthy to be considered at all; and these, perhaps, may also think that harmony at home is a matter of no moment. To these it may appear a thing not worth caring for, whether the movement of the State be sustained by Calhoun, and Barnwell, and Butler, and the 17 other Delegates from Charleston, for they all stand in the category of the unpurged, who mean to be guided by circumstances. Seven of our Judiciary are Delegates; these all, I believe, are similarly situated, and in this position will be found, in my opinion, most of those throughout the State, whose names have been longest associated, in the public mind, with the cause of Southern Rights. Are all these of no account? Are they "to be whistled down by the wind" without a thought? Can it be that men in earnest—men who at heart desire to see the experiment of resistance actually made, are willing, unnecessarily, to force into opposition so many of the tried patriots of the State. I can understand how, as a party move, where spoils were the object, it may be a wise policy in political aspirants to kill off competitors by means like these, but for the deliverance of a minority from the oppression of numbers, I should think that the utmost practicable unanimity was to be desired among those engaged in the hazardous undertaking.

One would suppose, too, that the despair of co-operation abroad would increase the necessity for co-operation in our own State.—It is the vocation of a paper, occupying the position of that just established in Greenville, to foment differences among the advocates of resistance; but the classification objected to, the tendency of which is to cut off very many against their will, from the movement party of the State, did not originate in that quarter. The use now made of it, I trust, may prove a warning to all who really wish success to the cause of resistance.

In a division like this, I should have to ask, like Mr. Webster: "Where am I to go?" I have ever proclaimed that anything was better than ultimate submission. And further, I have always believed that whenever decisive action is taken, it must be with a single State; and still nearer the mark, I have strongly inclined to the opinion that South Carolina was destined to make that beginning. Before I should pronounce upon the time and the occasion as fit to begin, I would look well to the condition of things without and within. The time and occasion, in my opinion, have not yet been, certainly are not now. Whether they will be when the Convention assembles, I would at present scarce venture to form an opinion, for less to express one, though I am not on this point altogether without hope.

No one can have a firmer or more abiding

faith than I have in the right of a State to withdraw from the Union, with or without cause; but refine as we may, to get rid of the General Government is seldom effected by drawing bills at ninety days or one year after date. A much better illustration of what ought to be done can be drawn from the smith's shop than the counting house. Success depends on striking while the iron is hot.

Had South Carolina herself been ready—as ready as I hope she may be eighteen months hence—the admission of California, and dismemberment of Texas, might have furnished the occasion, but the time should have been simultaneous with the commission of the acts. My policy would be this. To teach that Disunion was a thing certain in the future; to direct, in contemplation of this, all the energies of our people, first to preparation for a physical contest, a result, not improbable, but which becomes less probable the more we prepare to meet it; and next, to develop all our own resources, and cut off as far as practicable all intercourse with the offending States. This done, to hold ourselves ready to move, upon the first occasion of general ferment in the South, which, my life upon it, will occur full soon; and in the meanwhile, to cultivate the kindest relations, and to keep up industriously, and with system, the closest intercourse with our sister States of the South. Southern Rights Associations might be made greatly auxiliary; and there are other means of extended organization which, to be made effective, should not be discussed. As to the matter of preparation to defend ourselves against force, I do not, by this suggestion, mean to cast a doubt upon our right to secede peaceably; but let it be remembered that if rights were regarded by those with whom we have to deal, there would be no need of secession at all. We are threatened on all hands; Webster, Clay, Cass, the President, the majority of Congress, the Northern and Northwestern Press, all pronounce it flat rebellion. It matters not what secession may be in fact, if those who control the purse and the sword choose to consider it rebellion. It is true that acknowledged revolution is sometimes bloodless. Witness that memorable one, next to our own, the most familiar to us of all others, the revolution of 1838. But this revolution, perhaps, owed its peaceful character in great part to the well appointed army of 14,000 picked men, and the well known readiness of the Prince of Orange to make use of the ultima ratio regum.

Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD, S. C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1851.

Religious Notice.

The second quarterly meeting for the Edgefield Circuit, for the present year, will be held at this place, commencing this evening.

There are passages in the article of "SECESSION," to which we object; but we did not, of course, feel authorized to alter the manuscript. They are those passages which allude, as we think, too severely, to certain classes of our countrymen.

The advertisement of Messrs. AGNEW, FISHER & Co., of Newberry Village, is worthy the attention of every one of our readers, especially of those who live at any distance of tolerable convenience from Newberry. They hold forth very unusual inducements to persons trading at that place. We beg our Saluda friends to think of this, when dealing on that side.

Newberry & Co., of Augusta, have also a notice in this week's paper to which we call attention. We have recently visited their large and complete establishment, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it one of the cheapest and most fashionable in the two States.

"INDEPENDENCE."

We have only a word to say to this writer in our "editorial reference" to the article signed "Decision of 1850," we did use the term "submissionist" and we thought its "application was directed" with sufficient plainness to strike every one at a glance.—We spoke of those who were ready to acquiesce, and to rest passive under the grievous wrongs of the past—of those who recommend that South Carolina shall ground her arms of resistance as far as the past acts of Federal Tyranny are concerned. And this course we still denominated the course of submission. The term strikes the writer as being a "harsh epithet." We have consulted several dictionaries, and find nothing in them, that will warrant any one in affixing to this particular word, a signification that implies either disgrace or pusillanimity. "Submission" means "obedience," and political submission may perhaps be safely defined to be absolute obedience to "the powers that be"—which St. Paul expressly recommends. In this light, "resistance" may deserve to be called the harsher term of the two.

But we apprehend that the harshness of either epithet is to be determined by the strength or weakness of the reasons it can assign for the course it recommends. If "submission" be based upon good and sufficient reasons, where is the harshness of the term; and the same of "resistance." With due respect to "Independence," we may continue to use both terms when it suits us to do so. As to the advice which he has raked up from "proverbial philosophy" and applied to us, we think it good enough; and we thank him for the trouble he has taken on our account. At the same time, we must say that we have long since learned the lesson he seeks to impart to us, from higher and holier authority than his "Proverbial Philosophy." That we forget it, at times, is a frailty incident to humanity. To correct these wanderings, however, we have never before dreamed of consulting this curious, but not otherwise very remarkable production of Mr. Tupper. Even had we done so, the line that precedes the quotation of "Independence," would have been subjected to a double pencil-mark, while his selection might have received a single one. That line says:

"I say not, compromise the right—I would not have thee countenance the wrong."

We leave the article, as a whole, to the tender care of our other correspondent, who will

doubtless reply to it at such length, as the strength of the positions taken by "Independence" may seem to him to demand.

YOUNG MEN.

It is attempted in different quarters, privately and publicly, to raise a cry against the influence of young men. It is supposed by some that advanced life and grey hairs should not only counsel in difficult affairs, but lead in execution; and that youth is really but childhood, and fitted to mingle in the exercises and amusements proper to that age—but never to allude to the grave matters of politics—of State resistance—of revolution.—These ideas are preposterous. With the greatest respect for the experience of age, we yet maintain that in great crises, the young man, endowed with talents and filled with energy, is really the most reliable leader. It is the period when the heart's quick pulsations urge to the execution of daring conceptions of the brain—when, unalloyed by the studied caution and the unnatural timidity of the hackneyed politician, of the property-holder, after many years of accumulation, and of the already famous, who dread the unbinding of a single leaf of hard earned laurels—when, stimulated by ever-present visions of his country's renown and by an honest ambition to link his name with the story of her honor, the youthful patriot seeks to do, what may equal, if not surpass, the deeds of his predecessors.

All history is crowded with examples, in every walk of life, of the noble achievements of youth. Themistocles in youth, against strong prejudices, built a navy for Athens and defeated the greatest power existing on earth. Alexander, a youth, conquered the world and died at 33, when there was no longer an aim worthy of his genius and ambition. Pompey elevated the Roman name, and assumed the title of "Great" at the age of 25.—Hannibal, in youth, traversed the Alps for the first time with an army, and subdued the conquerors. In later periods, the Black Prince of England, in youth, won the highest renown. Gaston de Foix, at 21, won the great battle of Ravenna. Don John, the bastard of Charles 5th, won the still greater victory of Lepanto and died at an early age, like Alexander, worn out with fretting for new fields of achievement. Washington, a youth, established his claim to the command in chief of our revolutionary army. Buonaparte at 27, astounded the world with his Italian campaigns, and at 30, from his birthplace, an island then recently acquired by France and just in season to make him a Frenchman, assumed the purple of one of the greatest countries in Europe. Scott, at 28, had ascended to the top of the military ladder in the United States and made a reputation world-wide.

In other departments, to enumerate only a few out of the hundreds, Bacon, Pascal, Burk, Byron, in their youth, took position with the highest. And finally, our own Calhoun, in youth, was designated for the Presidency, and soon after, leaped, at a bound, to the summit of fame, from which he never descended.—Pshaw! deary youth? Why it is the golden age of man's earthly existence, for almost all purposes! It is successful by its peculiar qualities of disinterestedness and lofty aspiration, beyond the achievements of any other period of life. Almost all revolutions are conducted by youth. The highest and noblest actions on record were executed by youth. Let the aged advise—let them chalk out an honorable course: but for its perfect execution, let them call in the indomitable energy and determination of youth.—Without them, they will utterly fail—with them, and their resources, there is success.—In our present crisis, the youth must lead, if not guide, the action of South Carolina.—And when the great cause of liberty is reposed in their hands, we believe that the issue will not only be honorable, but most glorious.

FOR UNANIMITY'S SAKE.

We are willing to do any thing, that does not amount to an abandonment of principle. If we know our heart, we have no feeling of enmity to a single brother-Carolinian. Nor would we, at this particular time, be understood as being desirous of carping at every little error, on the part of those who are ours by all the strong and holy ties of social and civil brotherhood. We therefore, (at the mere hint of one, who thinks that we were unkind towards our gallant fellow citizen, Col. I. W. Hayne, in a notice recently made in our paper of his reply to the Patriot of Greenville,) publish now a portion of that article, in order that all may judge for themselves of its real tone, which is I thought we have misrepresents.

We have ever entertained the belief, that there will be ultimately no considerable division among us. And keeping this faith fully in view, we desire to conduct ourselves, even towards those who condemn our views, in a manner that will not interfere with our understanding shoulder to shoulder with them, when, in the closing scene of the drama now progressing, the sons of Carolina, shall flock from every quarter to vindicate with all the means that God has given them, the unsullied fame of their idolized mother.

The italics, in the extract given from Col. Hayne's letter, have been suggested, as pointing to the strongest passages of that letter. We never intended to convey the impression that Col. Hayne had said that we were to "submit to the wrongs of the past" &c., and we designed to imply that the temporising policy which we thought we saw indicated in our friend's communication, would in our opinion, lead to that result.

Our complimentary allusions to Colonel Hayne were not intended merely as a set off to our criticism—they were the promptings of the heart. He is a gentleman we have always admired—we know him to be made of stern stuff—we believe he is one of the truest spirits of the South—we had hoped and expected to find in him an unhesitating advocate of that noble line of policy which

has been marked out by the Legislature of the State of South Carolina. Perhaps we are mistaken in speaking of him as one who is opposed to that policy. God grant it!—We ask of our readers a careful perusal of Col. Hayne's article to be found upon another column, and hope that they will place the true construction upon it. Should it differ from ours, we will joyfully accede to its truth, even at the expense of our sagacity and perception.

FOR THE ADVERTISER.

Agreeably to the Resolutions of the Edgefield Southern Rights Association passed at the last meeting, the following gentlemen are appointed additional Delegates to the Convention of Associations to be held in Charleston on the first Monday in May next.

Hon. F. W. Pickens, Dr. Thomas Lake, Led Hill, Thomas G. Key, N. L. Griffin, Gen. James Jones, George A. Addison, James M. Richardson, Robert Merriwether and Dr. W. D. Jennings.

This appointment has been made under a firm conviction that no ordinary inconvenience or excuse will be suffered to prevent the prompt and punctual attendance of each and every member at the time and place mentioned.

JOHN BAUSKETT, Pres't.

FOR THE ADVERTISER.

It seems that the opposition to separate State action, within the borders of South Carolina, is beginning at last to unmask itself. Any attentive observer can now distinguish in clear day light, the friends and enemies of Secession in our midst.

The farmers who produce the raw material of the State and who constitute nine tenths of its population, are ready and eager for action, with other States if we can, but alone if we must. The manufacturers of the country, who work up the raw material into articles of trade, and the merchants who sell those articles, are both strongly inclined to oppose any action whatever, even by the Southern States, much more a single State.

Then strip the question of all disguises and the issue is made up. The trial of strength in the Convention, must be had between the bone and sinew of the country—the Farmers on the one hand, and the Manufacturers, Merchants and their dependants on the other. That is to say, shall Charleston and the other little towns of South Carolina, embracing in round numbers a population of about 50,000, rule the State, or shall the remaining 550,000 farmers rule it; or in other words, shall Charleston be the State, as she has always contended she had a right to be as much as Paris had a right to be France.

Turn it which way you will, and the struggle is between the agricultural and commercial interests of the State, which are ever at war with each other, when existing in the same country, however well, they may agree in different countries. The same antagonism of political interest, exists between the North and South. The former is best adapted by its nature to Commerce and Manufactures, and the latter to Agriculture, and hence, their inveterate hostility to each other, which is older than the Constitution itself; and hence, also, as the natural result of the two systems, the superior intelligence of the North, but its great inferiority in a physical, moral and social point of view, when compared with the South.

The Convention which is to meet in May, instead of being called the Southern Rights Convention of the Districts of South Carolina, should be more properly styled the Southern Rights Commercial Convention of Charleston and its Tributaries. We may well suspect, without claiming the spirit of prophecy, or pretending to superior penetration or sagacity, that it is a movement to forestall public opinion and control the action of the State. The same party that concocted this Convention, is the self same that opposed the call of the State Convention in the Legislature.

Yankee Merchants who control the Commerce of the Queen City, are the master spirits of this movement, and so let the country Delegates beware, or the ends will be stocked upon them for the trump of high, low, beg, jack and the game. Depend upon it Yankee cunning will exhaust all its arts and devices to bring about such a result.

Let no man charge me with attempting to array the upper and lower country in opposite and hostile ranks. I am one of those, who believe that the aristocratic representation of the lower country Parishes, is our only salutary check and safeguard upon the demagogical and progressive democracy of the middle and upper Districts. I firmly believe that the past and present proud position of South Carolina is attributable more to her Parish representation than to any thing else. Mr. CALHOUN thought so, and his admirable letter upon this subject, should forever silence even the most grumbling up-countryman, who is open to the convictions of truth.

My sole purpose in this communication, is to warn the whole country against the schemes and intrigues of Charleston and the commercial interest. Take the Parishes as a whole and they are warmer for secession than the Districts, which fact of itself, ought to speak volumes of encouragement to the secession party.

This Convention will issue an Address and Resolutions, as a matter of course, and whether they shall be regarded as evidence of the present state of public opinion in South Carolina, or whether they shall operate to manufacture future public opinion by the time the State Convention assembles, will be all the same.

Then how important is it that all the rural Districts and Parishes should be fully represented and the larger number of Delegates from each, the better it will be for those who send them. An interchange of views among a multitude of counselors, all

advising the same course—secession—would beget harmony of feeling and concert of action.

As the sense of the Convention upon any proposed measure, will be taken by Districts and Parishes, each giving one vote, or as many votes as it is entitled to in the Legislature, it is highly important that each should have a large delegation to deliberate long and well, ere they determine how the delegation should vote. Moreover, the sight of an army of sturdy back-woodsmen, may revive the drooping patriotism of Charleston, and reinvigorate the flagging courage of her degenerate sons and perfumed foplings. It may animate and give new strength to that determined band of patriots, who are still struggling manfully against the great odds of the Bank and Commercial combination.

It is therefore to be hoped, that all of the Delegates from Edgefield, at least, will promptly attend. Ours has the reputation of being the most gallant District in the State; it has more population than any other, and why should not its proper weight be felt.

I must be excused, for presuming to give our Delegates the benefit of a limited experience, without making an apology for the same. I mean to say, that if I were in said Convention, or in the State Convention, I should lend a suspicious ear to whatever might be said by either a preacher, or an old man, or a rich man, or the incumbent of any office of much honor or profit, especially the latter, and more especially when it is held by a life tenure, and as to a Southern Yankee Merchant! God deliver us from the presence of a single solitary individual one in the Convention. Why sir, I would just as soon entrust my person with the devil, as I would my rights and liberties with one of them.

Hearken to your own, native-born citizens, to your farmers of the middle class, to your independent men, whether old or young. They are and have always been the ablest champions of civil liberty in times of public trial, and know best when and how to overturn an old government or establish a new one. I may at some future day assign reasons for this advice, but at present it would be too tedious. It would also be an easy matter, to show that the Commercial interest of South Carolina would be more benefited by secession than the Agricultural interest—however I am admonished to subscribe

SECESSION.

FOR THE ADVERTISER.

Mr. Editor.—In your editorial reference to the dignified article which appeared in your paper of the 3d inst., signed "Decision of 1850," you assume that every man who does not concur with that writer in every point touched by his questions, is a "Submissionist." I say you have assumed, for you use the word "Submissionist," in connection with a reply, and you direct its application by expressing your "confidence in the ability of your new correspondent to redeem the glove which he has thrown down." The epithet is harsh in itself, its application unjust and its effect calculated to weaken the very position you so zealously and ably advocate. As the privilege of ancient friendship, allow me to recommend to your consideration the following sentiment of Proverbial Philosophy—"hear with charitable heart the reasons of an honest judgment."

For those who have heard, and knowest not when they are most right.

Nor whether to-morrow's wisdom will not prove these simple to-day."

If I know my own heart, no man in the State holds more sacredly dear, the interests, the welfare and the honor of South Carolina, than myself, and I am ready and willing to shoulder my musket in her defence whenever she makes the summons, and for whatever cause—without question or doubt. And yet I am one of the many in this District, who are opposed to the secession of the State of South Carolina alone, certainly, before the adjournment of the next Congress. In using the word *opposed*, I do not mean that I am hostile to the measure, but that I deem it unwise, impolitic and inexpedient.

I am opposed then, to secession *per se*, at this time.—Not because "we have endured less from the government at Washington, than did the American Colonies before they rebelled."

Not because "the stamp act was less oppressive or in principle one thousandth part so destructive of our rights, as the measures of the so called Compromise bills."

Not because we have a ray of hope of protecting justice from the Federal Congress or the conservative party at the North—nor because we doubt or deny the right of secession by a sovereign State, or that we object to the ultimate exercise of that right.

But because it is a right of which we cannot be divested, one which is always at command—a right which should not be unwisely or lightly used, and one which has power and effect in precise proportion to the moderation and forbearance incident to its use.

Because we have no reason to expect aught but continued encroachment upon our rights by the men of the North; but that in their mad passion they will shortly inflict some other blow upon our institutions under the authority of Congress, or commit some outrage by States, so signally atrocious, as will kindle a blaze of indignation from the Chesapeake to the Rio Grande and cause the slave owners at the South to rise up as an armed man, with the physical capacity to retain what we may take, to invite alliances and to enforce indemnity for the past as well as security for the future.

And of this result we have every assurance in the history of abolition, in daily occurrences at the North and in the fact, that the interests of the slaveholding States are the same. Several of the Northern States have practically nullified the Fugitive slave law already. Many of their Legislatures have instructed their Senators to effect its repeal.—The question of its repeal has been a test in all their recent elections and the repealing

candidate uniformly successful. Even New York has gone over to Seward, horse, foot and dragons.

My position is based upon my belief, 1st, that any effort at secession by a slave State, which is not positively, wholly and thoroughly triumphant, independent of, and in absolute exclusion of any compromise whatever, will be the final doom of slavery and the utter ruin of the South; 2ndly, in the truth of a quaint remark made by John Randolph, "that fanaticism never stops short of Heaven or Hell, and 3dly, that its next encroachment will unfailingly rally the South.

It cannot be shown that any State other than South Carolina, is now ready to act; nor have we any right to expect aid, comfort or support, from any but the State of Alabama. In the address of a committee of the States Right party in that State, there is, it is true, a pledge to sustain any seceding State; but this is not done by authority. We have no committal even from Alabama as a State.

In truth we have reason to believe that the other Southern States are disinclined to any action even by South Carolina—for they know she desires to move, that she intends to act and yet not one word of encouragement, not a promise to sustain, have any of them officially or informally given with the one exception. If then they give us the cold shoulder now, with what reason can we expect them to rally to our rescue when "in extremis?" Is it human nature or the habit of nations to form alliances with the weak? And yet this is the argument in favor of secession *per se*. Could we suspect the other Southern States of the meanness of looking on and awaiting the effect of South Carolina's secession, intending to join her if successful and to pity her if she fail, the prospect would not be more gloomy than it now is in the absence of any official promise of support.—Virginia—once the venerable mother of the South, teaching honor by example, is now a moral matricide and for the wages of federal spoil, presumes to tamper with the virtue of her oldest daughter. She has deliberately put on the livery of Mr. Clay and seems unblushingly reconciled to his compromise *per se*. Will Carolina's sister who "stoops to folly" fly to her aid and confirm her in the right, or will she rather seek to reduce the fair Carolinian to her own level? Have we the sympathies of North Carolina? Why Sir, too fifth of her population are as rank abolitionists as Giddings or Hale, and infinitely more sincere in the faith than either of them; as for the balance, they would serve wherever the pay was best, and cheerfully leap summertime from the Point mountain into the French Broad, for \$7 per month.

Why then, should South Carolina with the tide so plainly adverse, set sail upon an untried voyage, single and alone, when there is in the South-western offing, at least a hope of sufficient help, to guide the Ship of State with honor and security? Why not wait a little time until a common danger, threatening a common interest, produces co-operation, (and, disguise it as you may, there are dangers and certain distress, at least of a commercial nature), and the probabilities of aid sufficient to dispell every difficulty, warrant us in suspending our action for a time? Prudence "crieth at the gate" move not alone, until every hope of co-operation is exhausted.

You would ask me, when will this be determined? and I reply—certainly upon the amendment or repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, the abolishment of Slavery in the District of Columbia, or at Navy Yards and Forts, &c., or the prohibition of the traffic between the States, or any kindred measure, and I firmly believe that some act of the kind will be passed by the next Congress.

I would not have you suppose that I deem the aggression by Congress, already committed upon the rights and interests of the South, to be insufficient causes for a withdrawal of the Southern States. I hold them to be the grinding oppressions of Federal usurpation and consolidated tyranny. I wait not for cause of action, but for ability to act successfully—for united action by the oppressed, and I wait patiently because I believe that the South, in spite of treacherable influences, will be forced to unite. When every reasonable hope of union at the South shall have vanished, then will the emergency justify desperation, and then let South Carolina, single and alone, take the breach, trusting in a kind Providence and a good cause.

Your Correspondent asks, "if they (our Representatives) have done more than carry out the clearly implied wishes of a large majority of each and every section of the District?" I think they have. I cannot recall myself, (nor can any one of whom I have made the inquiry,) a single occasion when the call of a State Convention was discussed before the people. The Candidates hammered upon the Bank. The people were looking to the Nashville Convention. It was understood at the first meeting of the Southern Convention, that South Carolina was to be an active coadjutor, but that she was not to lead. The prudence and propriety of this course received at the time, universal approbation.—Again the Convention met and recommended a Southern Congress, and our hopes became directed to it. It was during this interval that the Legislature of S. Carolina put her in the lead, and provided for a State Convention, which might or might not meet at a very remote day. The extremely small vote taken for Delegates, I think, is, at least, *prima facie* evidence, that the people were not prepared for the call of a Convention, that they were looking for redress to the Southern Congress, and that our Representatives "did more than carry out their clearly implied wishes." I think there can be no doubt of this, and that the question had not been previously discussed, for it will be recollected that the Nashville Convention met after the general elections in October, and adjourned after our State Legislature had convened. Again, a circumstance of decided meaning is the fact, that

one of our members, who voted against the Convention Bill, received about double as many votes, at his election, as did any Delegate to the Convention. I can but regret, that any provision was made for calling a State Convention until after the Southern Congress had met, or failed to meet. We would thus have avoided much of the division in the State—a division which has weakened the cause of the South throughout the South. Our people have actually become bewildered, by the jumbling up of Nashville Conventions, the Southern Congress, and State Convention, the meeting of which latter is so remote, and depends upon so many contingences, that many suppose it never will meet, and some that it has met and adjourned. It strikes me, that a Convention should be called immediately upon the passage of the Act which is to be remedied by Convention, that it should be restricted to the specific object, that the election of Delegates should soon follow, and that it should convene while the cause of its meeting is fresh in the minds of the people. Then will it be effective. What I have said of the Convention refers solely to the policy and expediency of its call at the time. The act has been done, and cannot and ought not now to be undone, and the State must be sustained. I would not "have her shrink from her high position of determined resistance, nor undo what she has done," but I would have her in attitude, like to a well curbed war-steed, fully caparisoned, champing, and impatient for the onset. I rejoiced at the preparation made by the Legislature for her defence. I would have her do more, and keep her young men in training for any emergency. I would that we had State Rights Associations in every District, and Committees of Safety and Volunteer Companies, fully equipped, in every neighborhood. And I would to God, that every man in the South was as ready and willing as I am, to strike, not for equality in the Union, but out of it, for separate and perpetual INDEPENDENCE.

April 16, 1851.

FRESHET.—The water courses in this neighborhood were raised to an unusual height by the fall of rain on Monday evening and night, doing much injury to the bridges, and seriously retarding the planters on the river and creek bottoms. We have never known so much water, at once, and falls of rain in the same length of time as we have had this spring.—Pendleton Messenger, 10th inst.

THE MURDERER OF MR. FEENE.—The Greenville Mountaineer, of the 11th inst., gives a long report of the trial and conviction on the 9th inst., in that village, of Enoch Massey, for the deliberate murder of Mr. John S. Feene, a highly respectable resident in Greenville District.

The Mountaineer states also, that the verdict in the case of the brothers of Enoch Massey, indicted for participation in the murder, was under the instruction of the presiding Judge O'Neal—rendered in "Not Guilty."

A WOMAN BURNED TO DEATH.—At Syracuse, N. Y., on Saturday evening, the wife of Mr. May, a woman named, attempted to fill a spirit-glass lamp, while burning. One of her children ran against her, which upset the lamp and ignited the spirit. In attempting to extinguish the flame, her clothes took fire, and she was dreadfully burned over the whole body. She lingered in intense pain until Sunday at 1 o'clock, when death ended her sufferings.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE TURKISH SULTAN.—A letter from Constantinople, bearing no date, appears in the German paper, Weser Gazette, on the 17th ult., which states that a conspiracy had been discovered to poison the Sultan. At the bottom of it was his own brother, assisted by Ulemas. The plan was, to corrupt the Sultan's doctor, who was to mix poison in his medicine, for a considerable sum of money. The medical attendant revealed the plot. The chief conspirators fled. Several parties concerned in the scheme were apprehended and put to death. This news wants confirmation.

OBITUARY.

DEPARTED this life, at their residence near Hamburg, on the 16th of February last, Mrs. REBECCA PERKINS BRANSON, wife of Wm. B. Branson, in the 36th year of her age. She was the daughter of Capt. Edmund B. Belcher of Edgefield, and under the instruction and example of her pious and venerable parents, both of whom survive her, she received those impressions which were, afterwards, more fully and strikingly developed in her own pure and spotless life.

When a child she was remarkable for those gentle and amiable qualities, which in maturity, so much adorned the character of the wife, the mother, and the christian. At an early age she is known to have felt concern on the subject of religion and to have had an anxious desire to unite with the people of God, but on account of her tender years, this was delayed. In the summer of 1831 she became a member of the Baptist Church, and the writer of this tribute to her memory, retains an impressive recollection of her sweet and pious countenance as he, with others, went down with her into the water, to be "buried with Christ in baptism." The profession, thus made, was well illustrated by her subsequent life. She gave the highest evidence that she was a Christian, in the faithful discharge of her duties. She felt a deep solicitude for the spiritual interests of her children, and was ever ready to instruct them in the word of God and in endeavoring to impress its truths upon their minds. In all the social and domestic relations of life, her conduct was so kind and affectionate, as not only to render her the object of devoted attachment in the family circle, but to secure the esteem and friendship of a large number of friends. For several years her health was bad, and for some months before her death, she expressed the belief, that the time of her departure was near at hand, but in all her sufferings no murmur escaped her, and whilst she felt and expressed a natural and anxious concern about her family, her friends were struck with the strength of that Faith which she manifested, in resigning them and herself into the hands of God. On her death bed, she exhibited that composure and tranquility which the Christian alone can feel, and having bid farewell to her husband and children, the last word which escaped her lips on earth was the name of that Saviour in whom she had believed, and who was doubtless soon to receive her to himself in bliss above.

The deceased left a husband and six children to mourn their bereavement, but the remembrance of her virtues and the confidence that she has gone to her eternal rest, should mitigate the grief which is natural at the loss of such a friend. To the grace and mercy of God we commend the afflicted husband and children of our departed sister; may her portion in this life be the joys of that life which is beyond the grave, and may the example and pious instruction of her Mother, lead her children to that Saviour who was her comfort in life and her support in the hour of death.